

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121826

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: SECURITY VEHICLE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

ATHENS FOR RSO/TSO/ADMIN OFFICER; BEIRUT, ADDIS AND
FRANKFURT FOR RSS/RTCS; FROM A/SY/FO

REF: 1) DISCUSSIONS IN ATHENS BETWEEN SWCS WALKER/GEANEAS
IN APR 75; 2) BEIRUT 4877 AND 5558; 3) MEMO TO RSS/RTCS
DATED 8/19/74, SUBJECT: AUTOMOTIVE AND ARMORING PROGRAM

1. PROPOSE TO ESTABLISH AN SY VEHICLE MAINTENANCE BASE AT
AMEMB ATHENS, FROM WHICH TWO SEABEE MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS
CAN OPERATE IN EUR, NEA AND AF AREAS. PURPOSE WOULD BE TO
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HAVE A BASE FOR TRAVEL FOR PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE OPERA-

TIONS FOR SY CONTROLLED FULLY ARMORED SECURITY SEDANS NOW BEING USED BY COMS AT LISBON, ATHENS, NICOSIA, ANKARA, DAMASCUS, TEHRAN, BEIRUT, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JIDDA, CAIRO AND ADDIS.

2. IF APPROVED, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT A CHIEF MECHANIC WITH WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN (AGED 1 THROUGH 3) AND A 2ND CLASS PO WITH WIFE, WOULD INITIATE OPERATIONS. BOTH ARE UNDERGOING ADDITIONAL SPECIALIZED AUTOMOTIVE SCHOOLING AND WILL BE READY FOR ASSIGNMENT BY LATTER JULY. HOUSING AND

SUPPORT WOULD OPERATE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS PRESENT SEABEE POSITION IN ATHENS. THE OPERATION OF THIS PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO BE SIMILAR IN CONCEPT TO EXISTING REGIONAL SECURITY OPERATIONS. THE TSO WOULD BE THE ON-SITE SUPERVISOR IN ATHENS. CONSIDERABLE LATITUDE IN SCHEDULING OF OPERATIONS WILL BE NECESSARY DUE TO WIDE AREA TO BE COVERED.

3. THE PRIMARY DUTY OF THESE TWO SPECIALISTS IS TO ESTABLISH A THOROUGH PROGRAM OF PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND A LOGISTICAL SYSTEM OF RESUPPLY OF AUTOMOTIVE PARTS AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE SECURITY CONTROLLED FULLY ARMORED CARS. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR WILL BE NECESSARY TO PROPERLY DEVELOP THIS PROGRAM AND ORGANIZE ITS OPERATION TO EFFECTIVELY ACHIEVE THE MISSION. ONCE THIS OBJECTIVE IS ACHIEVED, THE SPECIALISTS SHOULD BE CAPABLE OF OFFERING SOME ASSISTANCE TO OTHER SECURITY ORIENTED SEABEE PROJECTS, PARTICULARLY UNDER EMERGENCY CONDITIONS. THE ADDITIONAL PROJECTS WOULD BEST BE ASSIGNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR REQUIRED MAINTENANCE TRIPS TO POSTS. THE ADDITIONAL DUTIES SHOULD BE COORDINATED BY THE TSO.

4. REQUEST THAT EMBASSY PROVIDE GOVERNMENT-LEASED AND FURNISHED HOUSING TO THESE PERSONNEL. PLEASE ESTIMATE ALL HOUSING AND SUPPORT COTS REQUIRED DURING FY 76 FOR THESE TWO ADDITIONAL SEABEE POSITIONS AND INFORM SY AND EUR/EX FOR APPROPRIATE BUDGET PLANNING. TDY TRAVEL FROM ATHENS TO MAINTAIN THE VEHICLES LOCATED AT THE TWELVE
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POSTS LISTED ABOVE IS ESTIMATED AT DOL 15,000. THIS IS BASED ON AN ESTIMATED THREE VISITS OF APPROX FIVE DAYS EACH VISIT PER POST PER YEAR PLUS THREE ADDITIONAL TRIPS TO RESPOND TO UNFORSEEN EMERGENCIES.

5. THESE TWO POSITIONS ARE THE FY 74 TERRORISM AMENDMENT MECHANIC POSITIONS ORIGINALLY PROGRAMMED FOR RTC FRANKFURT AND RTC BEIRUT. THE POSITION PROGRAMMED FOR RTC ADDIS HAS

BEEN DELETED AT THIS TIME. REF 3 ADVISED OF SY/FO'S ORIGINAL INTENTIONS AND PROVIDED A JOB DESCRIPTION FOR SEABEES IN THIS PROGRAM. ORIGINAL CONCEPT HAS CHANGED SOMEWHAT BECAUSE OF GROUPING OF SEDANS REQUIRING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND LACK OF SUFFICIENT WORKING/STORAGE SPACE AT BEIRUT. ATHENS ALSO OFFERS DISTINCT TRAVEL ADVANTAGES OVER BEIRUT, FRANKFURT AND ADDIS.

6. REQUEST ATHENS COMMENT OF FEASIBILITY THIS PROPOSAL AND IDENTIFY ANY ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS WHICH MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT HERE. KISSINGER

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